

Once Human 181

Chapter 181

As they scanned their surroundings, Tarathiel, Ehrendil, and Ti Eru were unable to sense the intruder, which made them feel even more anxious, especially the two gargoyle brothers .

By the time the Void Arrow disappeared, a large gaping hole could be seen in the abdomen of the earth-knight . The same kind of pressure could be felt from the knight as if the arrow didn't affect it the least . However, the Earth Spirit didn't move albeit suffering from a sudden attack, which raised doubts in Ti Eru's minds .

Unlike the gargoyle brothers, he didn't remain stunned and apart from a quick glance at the knight, he didn't pay it much heed, his focus shifted back to its original target and he unhesitantly attacked Tarathiel .

"Tarathiel, it seems Heaven blessed your clan yet doomed it at the same time!"

Feeling happiness in other's misery, Ti Eru ferociously swung his red sword as an illusory bloody image of a red spider manifested behind him . It gave off a savage aura, full of anger and bloodlust . Like the Lich King and any God Arthur encountered, Ti Eru went all out and invoked his God Spirit, which is created whenever someone breaks into Godhood and each one is always different from the other, there can never be two exact God Spirits .

The fight resumed, but this time, Ehrendil joined the fray as he and his brother summoned their God Spirits . Tarathiel's was a three-eyed lizard and Ehrendil's was surprisingly a creature very similar to a cyclop, it wielded a large yellow club and had one large eye . The combination of the two God Spirits faced the red spider, however, the spider was much larger and more frightening than both of them combined .

It hissed at them and with Ti Eru floating in front of it, both pigolo and spider charged at the duo, releasing an alarming bloodlust and an overwhelming pressure .

Tarathiel was no pushover either, despite being extremely angry and not having the time to awaken the Earth Spirit, he swung his long staff at Ti Eru .

The red spider shot a thick red beam of light at the swinging cyclop then threw itself savagely at the lizard, using its countless sharp teeth to rip it to shreds . At this point, the mud tower was shaking and even the nearby gargoyles and pigolo who were fighting were pushed further away . In a battle between gods, such insignificant battles of immortals cannot be compared and they could easily die from collateral damage .

The battle reached its climax in just a couple of seconds as unlike a fight between Immortals, the battle of Gods is much shorter and usually ends in a very short time .

At an unknown point of time, when all of them were busy fighting their opponents, a black whirlpool appeared near the feet of the earth knight once again and a black shadow was ejected from its inside . The black shadow flew with an extraordinary speed toward a specific direction until it heavily crashed into a wall thirty meters away . Usually, anyone would think someone has been sent flying but the force

of the crash was extremely strong to the point that the hard wall of the mud tower cracked and a large hole was formed where the shadow crashed .

The three gods couldn't help but halt and frown at such a sudden event, they focused their Godly Sense on that hole in the wall but their frows deepened further when they discovered naught .

.....

When Arthur tried to possess the Earth Knight, he did the usual and entered it but after waiting for some time, a very powerful ejecting force threw him out of the knight's body and sent him flying away, he couldn't even stop his body from crashing into the wall .

Fortunately, despite spitting a small mouthful of blood, he managed to react immediately as he merged into the Earth and went for the closest target he could find, which surprisingly was Rose, the green-armored general .

Just as he was about to possess her, a terrifyingly strong gravitational force pushed him out of the ground and what faced his vision was a long illusory tail of Tarathiel's God Spirit .

Arthur's main focus now was to hide his appearance, then he could easily escape, as long as they don't see his real appearance then it's all good .

At the very last second, his body vanished and appeared a distance away, barely avoiding the incoming tail which heavily crashed on the ground and shook the tower yet again .

Without waiting for them to react or before even their sense could swipe over him, Arthur transformed into a small black whirlpool and his body disappeared . What replaced him was the body of the white-clothed youth who was conversing with Vyncent . Using his ice powers to freeze his body and stop it from rotting, along with insane regenerative abilities, his body went back to normal, fully healed .

The process of possessing took less than a second and by the time the senses of the three gods caught up to him, he was already using the white-clothed youth's body .

This time, Arthur's didn't escape, he just raised his hand and a strong dark barrier formed . The incoming large club of the cyclop, which brought with it immense pressure, smashed against the dark barrier and managed to cause some cracks but it still didn't break .

....

"Senior Lu!"

Not far away, the two Dun twins which were fighting a pigolo were stunned once they saw the youth . What's more is that they saw their senior brother, who was supposed to be at the Divine Realm, block a blow from the God Spirit of Ehrendil!

"Stop! It's Senior Lu from our sect!"

Dun Dal saw that Tarathiel's lizard was going to attack again so he brushed off the fear and spoke . Contrary to his expectations, Tarathiel ignored him and concentrated on attacking Arthur .

As for Ti Eru, with a pondering and amused expression, he backed away and silently watched the battle that was going to unfold . He was able to sense that the youth was clearly at the Divine Realm but his eyes told him another thing . Whether the youth meant to harm or not, he was after the Earth Spirit and as the saying goes, the enemy of my enemy is my friend .

Although Arthur's plans were disrupted, he was by no means panicking . His appearance couldn't have completely seen, he was barely visible for less than a second, even if they managed to see a small fraction, they couldn't have memorized all his facial and physical features .

Moreover, seeing Ti Eru back down and the two gargoyle brothers intending to fight him, he was a bit amused and excited . He had long since wanted to see how strong he was, facing these two Gods, he could finally test his new strength . If worse comes to worse, he would flee or sneakily possess someone from their side, what's sure at least is that he isn't going to give up on the Earth Knight, not yet at least .

He didn't take out Makaze, neither did he plan on using his attribute . The first thing he was eager to test was his physical body . Although he annoying chains were still present, he was still able to hide them and they were less restrictive since he broke through tot he Divine Realm .

Arthur stared at the cyclop, which was ready to swing again and deactivated his dark barrier . The Dark-Star Strengthening technique, which boosted his physical strength, was activated and created an illusory black layer of energy above his skin .

Resolutely, he faced the incoming large club and used his bare hand to perform a punch .

"Courting death!"

Ehrendil snickered as he the actions of Arthur, even Tarathiel was startled . Ti Eru, who was watching from the backlines shook his head and sighed .

Arthur didn't mind that and used his full strength to punch the club . As the two ends clashed, sand waves swept forth and mud tower heavily shook . To the dumbfounded gazes of the three gods, Arthur was pushed back five steps, as for the cyclop, it was only pushed back a step but the light emitting from it dimmed by a bit .

"T-this is . . "

Ti Eru sucked a breath of cold air as he saw the perfect state of Arthur's hand . To battle with a God Spirit in raw strength and not be injured, not even a bit, it was not something a Divine Realm could do . Heck! Even him doesn't dare to clash with the cyclops head-on, only his red spider could!

Tarathiel's gaze turned from mock to total astonishment, his pupils shrunk and his eyes narrowed . He looked at his equally flabbergasted brother and seriously said

"Let's join hands, I do not believe he can withstand us!"

As he said that, the three-eyed lizard leaped from behind him and opened its jaw, spitting a yellow ball which was obviously targetted at Arthur .

The cyclop followed right after as it furiously banged its club on the ground as it was angered by its loss . It swung its club a second time, however, you could sense that the power behind it was much stronger

than the first strike . Its club shined with a brown light as it came bashing at the small figure of the white-clothed youth .

'Hehe, interesting . '

Staring at the two incoming attacks, Arthur still remained calm as he clenched his hand into a fist again, but this time, neither of the gargoyle brothers or the chief tribe underestimated him or mocked him .

His clenched fist had a bean-sized green light shining from it, as he took a punching posture . Arthur performed a slow punching attack and each time his punch advanced a distance, the green light emanating from it expanded until all his fist was green .

The incoming club and the yellow ball didn't wait for Arthur to prepare, the club came smashing from above and the ball was aimed at his chest . Oblivious to these extremely powerful attacks, Arthur's eyes shone as his fist, which was filled with green light, struck the air in front of him

'I'll show you the taste of a real punch! Heavenly Mountain Fist!'

'Booom!'

A loud explosion occurred as the fist struck the air, which instantly created a one-meter-deep hole under Arthur's feet, which soon was followed by an ear-deafening sound caused by his strike .

The incoming club was instantly pushed away and the cyclop was forced to back away a few steps and kneel, the light coming from it dimmed by a lot as if it was going to vanish at any second . As for the yellow ball, it was instantly pushed back and dispersed in a matter of seconds, however, this was not the end, the ground cracked and the room was divided into two . Large boulders fell from above and the mud tower kept shaking as if it was going to fall at any given second .

'As expected of a Heavenly Rank technique . '

Although his mastery of it was not that high, he was still able to cause disastrous damage thanks to his high Strength stats . Ehrendil coughed two mouthfuls of blood, his face became pale and he didn't seem to be in a good condition . Tarathiel was far better as he backed away and didn't suffer any injuries . As for Ti Eru, he was far from the clash, apart from having to fly due to the ground under him being swallowed by the huge hole appearing in the room, he was not affected .

Using this fist technique, it was efficient and fairly strong, but it still took a toll on his Nether Energy reserve but thanks his recovery was equally overpowered so there was no disadvantage .

As the dust cleared, Tarathiel was going to ask the youth to stop, clearly, defeating him would cost him dearly . Furthermore, Ti Eru was still at the side and he couldn't deal with the two at the same time, not after his brother was injured .

Unfortunately for him, Arthur was never willing to listen to anyone . He calmly took back his fist and regained the same punching posture, a small bean-sized green light appeared in his hand again and without hesitation, he started punching slowly, causing Tarathiel's handsome face to turn ugly, even Ti Eru was alarmed . He called back his red spider and backed away even further .

'Booom!'

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This punch was more devastating than the first one as the mud tower was already shaking heavily when Arthur attacked . The thick crack dividing the room into two parts became even bigger and all people close to him were sent flying high up in the air or blown away, crashing into the falling wall or out of the room, some even fell into the huge hole at the end of the room from which gargoyles came from .

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It was as apparent as the sun that Arthur was way superior to them, after all, when he was just an Immortal, he managed to kill an almost peak grade God from the Underworld, so, although Ti Eru and the rest were decently strong, if Arthur was to go all out like last time, they won't be able to get away unscathed, however, the probability of killing them all without suffering nothing is equally impossible too .

Rumbling sound echoed in the mud tower and a third of it collapsed on itself which forced the huge crowd to dart away from the room . Ti Eru was wise enough to stay away so he quickly left the room along with his army when he saw the astonishing devastation . His anger had long since vanished when he saw the gargoyles suffer this much . Without wasting another second in here, he enveloped his army with a red energy and flew away from the mud tower .

Due to the damage caused by the white-clothed man, Tarathiel was forced to focus on him and let Ti Eru get away, he rushed to catch his brother, who had a pale face, blood leaked out of his lips and his body had multiple bloody scratches, ugly to behold .

What they didn't know is that in the second punch, along with using Heavenly Mountain Fist, he also added Natural Lightning, which caused vibrations in all the surroundings and in no time, they invaded the God's body and injured him internally .

Natural Lightning is one of the deadliest abilities Arthur could use, along with his fire and Dark Magic . Void magic is also overpowered but if it isn't used wisely, it could easily turn on its owner and cause self-harm, death in some extreme cases .

Everyone was focused fleeing and dodging the falling boulders and ignored the source of all this damage . Grasping this opportunity, Arthur's figure blurred and appeared near Rose, who was intending to jump into the big hole .

Just as she was about to jump, a small whirlpool flashed near her and vanished by the next second . Without her, or anyone else noticing, Arthur was able to slip in and avoid the focus of the three Gods, which were busy dealing with this complicated situation .

In fact, even if the boulders were to hit them, they would receive no damage, however, that was something else for their armies, especially the gargoyles, who had Spirit and Mortal ones lingering in that huge army

.....

Deep underground, in a decently large room with a simple bed and a special yard with a few medicinal plants growing in it, there sat a female gargoyle with red hair and long ears, she was not a top beauty but her looks were not average either, the only thing you can criticize her for is her missing arm . She

quietly sat on the bed with eyes closed and crossed legs . For the last two days, Rose stayed in her room, recovering from the injuries she suffered . Adding the arm she lost, a strange green lightning invaded her body and caused some injuries . It was not severe but it couldn't be ignored either as she needed to slowly push out the lightning, which stuck to her organs and kept vibrating and causing annoying pain .

The shut eyes opened at last when the last bit of green lightning was expelled from her body, Rose breathed a sigh of relief as she inspected her body one last time . When she saw nothing out of place, she prepared to wear her armor and head out to meet the clan leader only to be stopped .

Wide open eyes, half-open mouth and a flabbergasted expression, she didn't even stand yet when her vision landed on a gray-haired man standing a meter in front of her . He didn't emit any dangerous aura but that didn't stop her from freezing on the spot, it was unknown if she stopped moving due to fear or hesitation, but it certainly wasn't surprise .

All kinds of thoughts rampaged in her mind but no matter how hard she thought, she couldn't guess how he managed to appear here . This underground layout is the real stronghold of the gargoyles and even a God cannot pass undetected when sneaking in here, it is also why the gargoyles were able to last this long and are considered one of the strongest factions here .

'How did he get here? Teleportation? No! That's not possible! There's an array against that . . . then how '

Rose didn't thoroughly think through, she glanced at her sword which was not far away . She kept it outside to nurture it and increase her intimacy with the sword . Sword cultivators like hers always nurture their swords, only Arthur would hide Makaze in his storage and only take it in dire times .

Actually, since he has peak mastery, he doesn't need to nurture his katana, however, what he didn't know is that his mastery is not enough for him to show what real sword mastery is .

"Fate let us meet again, how do you do, General Rose . "

Arthur talked with a calm tone as he displayed a playful smile, he didn't feel threatened and already knew what she was thinking about . He didn't push away the sword or destroy it, in fact, he acted as if he didn't know her intention .

The indifference Arthur showed only made the general more panicked, various foolish and risky thoughts popped in her mind but at the end, she didn't dare to act as she remembered how she was completely hopeless against him last time and lost an arm without even realizing it, it was absolute fear that came from deep inside her .

Forcefully squeezing a friendly smile, she replied

"It's very nice to meet you again, sir . "

Ignoring her panic and fearfulness, Arthur walked to the other end of the bed and sat, oblivious to the stare of the general . He didn't conceal this to make this dialogue more convincing, moreover, they already crossed paths and she shouldn't be stupid enough to act against him .

Arthur wanted to stay dormant a bit more but he knew that it wasn't possible, the only reason he was able to enter her body was due of the injuries and the lightning that hurt her and perturbed her Nether

Energy flow, stopping it from detecting him . If more time passed, she would have detected a strange presence and would have forcefully pushed him out and that was deal heavy damage to him, just like what that knight did .

He suffered serious injuries but two days were more than enough for his body to fully recover . Although this place was dangerous, he still had a bit of confidence to fix things, furthermore, he was not going to give up on that knight . Without a doubt, that thing has a connection with spatial magic, as long as it has even a small probability, Arthur was able to bet on it .

"I have already given you a second chance and there will not be another . Not everyone gets a second chance in life, so you better treasure it and act wisely, not foolishly . "

When Rose wanted to act and straightened her thoughts, Arthur's words were like a bucket of cold water pouring over her and making her unable to even keep that stiff smile .

"Seeing that you understand, let me ask you a simple question . Do you want to live? Or die?"

Expecting a question about her clan, Rose was startled and only after a few seconds did she snap out of her daze . Unconsciously, facing this calm yet scary man, she hurriedly replied

"L-live, live, I want to live but that doesn't mean I'll betray my kin!"

Arthur shrugged his shoulders innocently and retorted

"So what? Humans betray each other every day . Life is more precious than what you call loyalty because, at the end of the day, it is Strength which matters, not an absurd thing like 'loyalty' . Furthermore, I'm not asking you to betray your kin, you just have to remain silent, nothing more . "

Rose kept silent, and from the stubborn and resolute look on her face, it was obvious that she wasn't willing to cooperate .

"Now that is a problem . "

Since the friendly way wasn't going to work, Arthur was not going to try to be kind either . The ethereal state was canceled and his playful smile vanished .

Countless threads wrapped themselves around Rose and stopped her from even lifting her finger but what followed was the real horror . A thick bloodlust enveloped her coupled with a chilling aura shaking her spines, albeit being immobile due to the threads, her body involuntarily shivered from fear . It's like she was facing a completely different person, previously a sly fox and now a slaughter god . The stubborn words that she was intending to spit out couldn't get out of her mouth . Her body was locked by a vicious and cold stare coming from the deep gray pupils of Arthur, it was suffocating as if someone was strangling her .

"General, you must know that all life is temporary and it is up to each person to decide his fate . Do not be foolish enough to waste your long life, neither I nor you wish for your death, so do not disappoint me!"

As his words finished, he vanished from her sight and she felt an extremely cold yet weird aura invading her mind . Before she could gather her Nether Energy to fight it out, she heard the same cold voice inside her ears

"Remember, Tomorrow is a hope, never a promise, don't waste your second chance when you're so lucky enough to get one . "

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Since she talked with Arthur, Rose never stopped feeling weird, as if she was not herself anymore or as if she was fully exposed to someone's stare, it was an extremely disgusting and uncomfortable feeling, however, she didn't dare to push out whatever was lurking inside of her .

Since that was the case, she could only try to bear with it until it's done . She also wasn't courageous enough to go to the clan master and spit out the truth about Arthur . Although she was too loyal to her clan, anyone's life is more important than loyalty, nothing could ever change that .

. . . .

At the central hall inside the mud tower, Tarathiel and two other gargoyles sat around a table with serious expressions and ugly faces .

"The losses this time are pretty big . "

The tall gargoyle who had an aura no less threatening than Tarathiel and Ehrendil spoke with a concerned tone . He was the second brother and was away when Ti Eru came .

"Sixteen mines and one residential area! All gone!"

'bang!'

Ehrendil banged his fist angrily on the table, although they cause a lot of suffering to the Pigolo Tribe, they didn't expect Ti Eru to be this mad and retort with a full frontal attack from all sides, it wasn't his style .

Pigolos believe in strength and were never people with resort to underhanded means which is why the gargoyles were bold enough to attack, however, the reality was cruel and their losses far outweighed their wins .

"This is nothing, once we can fully wake up the Earth Spirit, those snakes and ugly cockroaches will meet their end!"

Tarathiel was the calmest amongst the five, he tapped his finger in a rhythmic manner on the table as he gazed huge earth knight with reverence . For them, users of the Earth Attribute and living underground, such spirit is akin to their god, or ancestor, their respect for it was incomparable but Tarathiel was a bit different, although he revered it, he also had thoughts of trying to control it . At first, he thought it was impossible as it was a spirit, but after seeing how old and injured it was, his hopes were once again ignited .

"What do we do? Do we fight back? Ti Eru's forces don't seem to be falling back or retreating, that guy had gone crazy!"

The tall gargoyle spoke with a bit of fear, he remembered the large number of Pigolos who invaded their land and fought in literally a savage manner, killing as many gargoyles as they could before falling down, it wasn't a horror to behold .

"Nothing, since they want destruction then let them have it, we should focus more on awakening the Spirit . "

Ehrendil nodded in confirmation and left the hall with the tall gargoyle after discussing for few more minutes .

Once he made sure that no one was there, Tarathiel knelt respectfully in front of the Earth knight and said

"Great one, what are your orders . "

He had malicious thought and wanted to control the spirit but for now, it wasn't possible so he laid low and kept a very deep secret with him .

"Mmmmm"

A deep fearful voice came out of the earth knight, it brought with it immense pressure and a sense of oppression . It seemed to be pondering as Tarathiel knelt in front of it . After an unknown amount of time passed, the deep voice rang inside the hall once again .

"Just keep providing me with those stones, once I fully regain my powers then those insects will meet their end . . especially that one! Hmpf hmpf!"

After it said that, the aura lessened until it vanished, leaving Tarathiel soaking with sweat . Unknown to the gargoyle, the earth was not referring to Ti Eru in his last sentence but about Arthur, who tried to forcefully take over its body, causing more harm than good .

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In the blink of an eye, three days passed without nothing major happening in the central territory of the gargoyles . Ti Eru continued his crazy attack and became even more relentless, he was hellbent on decimating them . Even Ehrendil started to worry and met up with Tarathiel a few times but the latter only told him to lay low and wait patiently .

Rose didn't do anything particular, she just meditated to recuperate and ordered some of her subordinates . She was General and her position was only second to the three brothers . Although she lost an arm, her prowess was not to be underestimated .

Arthur didn't act either, he wasn't going to foolishly sneak around their base as the time was not ripe, he was not interested in their fight with the pigolos neither was he going to cause trouble, he just needed to find a safe way to control that night .

The silent slumber of Arthur finally halted as he started detecting the spatial fluctuation from Rose's room by the fourth day . It became even more intense which caused him to feel it although he is inside Rose's body (No dirty thoughts please) .

"It's time to act . "

Being suddenly interrupted from her meditation, Rose was annoyed but instantly realized that it was Arthur's voice . She hesitated for a second before uttering

"Didn't you say I just need to stay silent about you?"

"Just shut up and do as I say . "

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Arthur's tone was clearly like a master ordering a servant, which enraged Rose but she didn't protest, she clenched her fist and remained silent .

"That's more like it, now go North until I tell you to stop . "

Begrudgingly, Rose could only leave her room and head North into this vast underground area . Each step allowed Arthur to feel how strong the spatial fluctuation were . Merely twenty minutes later, Arthur signaled her to stop and said

"What is there above us?"

"It should be the Ancestral Hall . "

"Is that where that Earth Knight was?"

"Earth Knight? we have no such thing . "

Confused by what she heard, Rose tilted her head and pondered before replying that, she was surprisingly cooperative right now, however, perhaps it was due to being used to being used like this and adding that to total helplessness .

Just as she was going to ask what does he want to do, a small whirlpool appeared in front of her and a dark shadow jumped up and disappeared into the nearby roof in a matter of one second .

"Wait here, I'll come back . "

Chapter 184

After that day, when Usui experienced the Earthquake, seen the blue windows and tried the incantation that was displayed in the skills window . The small flame that slowly burned inches above his palm changed his pessimistic attitude . An indescribable feeling surged, gazing at that flame yet feeling no pain .

The book he used as a test turned into ashes within seconds, seeing this flame disappearing after its use was done . Usui was left aghast for a few seconds, his normally calm eyes were ignited as a passion never seen before was born . A desire to be strong, to control his fate in his hands, not be tied by politic matters, marriages or whatnot .

To do whatever he wants whenever he wants, to protect himself and be the strongest, such a far yet realizable ambition surfaced in his mind . His heartbeats accelerated and his thoughts raged, the sheer thought of it made him excited .

He knew that it'll be a hard road, that this was but the beginning yet this only added to his strong will and strengthened more .

....

Although major things occurred after the earthquake, Usui remained oblivious to it . For the next whole week, he didn't leave his family's mansion . Hour after hour, night after night he would stay at the very same balcony, practicing his new abilities . He only had [Fireball] and its upgrade [Fire Wave] . Fire affinity(passive) also helped him create small sparks of flames but compared to the real deal they were weak . One fireball had a size a bit bigger than his fist, as for the fire wave, its might was really terrifying, he almost burned his garden so he didn't to carelessly use it here .

Thanks to his meticulous and hard work, Fire Ball leveled two times and became Lv3, its size didn't increase dramatically but the heat emanated from it more than doubled .

His intelligence stats increased by 6 and somehow, his wisdom also increased by 2 . The amount added was meager but Usui didn't feel disappointed, in fact, he couldn't be happier .

He heard from his butler that monsters appeared in random areas, there were not a lot of casualties but certain forbidden places later called dungeon also appeared . These dungeons appeared in every capital of all the world and some appeared randomly all over the world .

Right now, with the union of all countries, they managed to locate three hundred twenty-six dungeon and it was still growing every day . What's more terrifying is that military expeditions tried entering them to investigate but the arms weren't helpful as the monsters were stronger than those outside and this foolish movement by the governments caused a lot of unnecessary casualties .

. . .

The never stopping practicing of young Usui was finally halted after ten days . He decided to stop and start exploring when his Fireball reached Lv4 .

Currently, his stats increased by a bit but in his opinion, to reach the top, this amount is nothing .

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Status Window

Name: Usui

Age: 21

Race: Human

LEVEL: 0

Strength: 21

Agility: 15

Dexterity: 9

Intelligence: 153

Wisdom: 81

Vitality: 10

Health: 40(0 . 05/s)

Mana: 250(0 . 1/s)

Stamina: 30(0 . 09/s)

Fire Resistance: 25%

Skills(active): Fire Wave Lv1, Upgraded Fireball Lv4, Run(Lv1)

Skills(passive): Fire Affinity, Deep Thinking Lv1, Clear Mind Lv2 .

Unallocated Points: 0

The two newly added skills were a bit of a surprise to him . Although they were passives, they helped him a lot in understanding the fire affinity and control better the fire . As the name suggests, [Clear Mind] makes his thoughts clearer, as for [Deep Thinking], it allowed him to close his eyes and focus on one thing for a whole hour without being disturbed by external noises, it helped him a lot in leveling the fireball skill .

He also used the unallocated points and put them into intelligence, which added the power of his fireball . He first thought practicing will increase his level but after inquiring his butler, he discovered that only hunting monsters will raise his experience .

Usui also learned that there were countless people who learned abilities unique just like him but there was also the normal crowd, like his butler, who could see their status but their stats were low and they gained no skill, but it didn't mean that such skills were not obtainable .

As his family was quite rich and had a lot of connections and strings here and there, he managed to find a new party with people who acquired special skills just like him . With them, he was going to enter one of the dungeons . The dungeon they were entering was the one with weak monsters, not like the dungeons that were horrifying like the one in Hawaii, which was infiltrated by more than a hundred soldiers but none came alive, only fearful cries could be heard .

Chapter 185

The second Arthur left the general's body, he headed straight to the surface, precisely towards where the Spatial fluctuations were denser . From the looks of it, they have changed its locations because the

place he was heading to wasn't where that fight occurred . Cautiously, with his two Senses spreading only a dozen or so meters and his aura suppressed, Arthur made his way towards the Earth Knight .

He was determined to possess it, more so when he started sensing the powerful fluctuations, even if it wasn't certain that he'll gain a lot of stats, the mastery in Spatial sub-attribute will help him a lot . Anything related to Spatial Magic can only be beneficial for him .

It's true that it was quite daring and dangerous to venture alone in the main base of the gargoyles, but Arthur had many precautions set in his mind and a few trump cards used as a last resort . Worst comes to worst, he would have to unleash a devastating Rizaki, it'll self-harm him too, and in a serious way, however, that is always better than getting caught or killed on the spot .

Approximatively ten minutes after he left Rose's body, Arthur resurfaced inside a large empty hall where only the huge Earth Knight sat on a similar throne as the one from before .

Since his aura was massively suppressed, adding that to possessing a three-meter tall worm specialized in invisibility, it was extremely hard to sense him unless a God focused entirely on spreading his sense in that area, which is not the case right now .

Slowly, Arthur used the worm's body to crawl near the knight without raising any suspicions . His Sixth Sense was locked on the knight whilst his Divine Sense was surveying the countless small fluctuations, which couldn't cause any harm but were still numerous and eye-catching .

The part where Arthur's arrow struck was still missing, a huge hole in its abdomen . What was shocking, however, was that its body was kind of regenerating, which didn't sound plausible, especially if it was devoured by the Void . Arthur felt a bit startled but didn't mind it that much, this knight was not something ordinary and to be able to regenerate from that isn't entirely impossible if it's a being that could look down on Gods .

'Let's see how really tough you are . '

The disgusting large mouth of the worm opened, showing countless small sharp teeth . A cold surging aura came out from that bottomless hole and started manifesting in front of the mouth and in just a few seconds, a dark flaming ball with small green lines on it was conjured . Without holding back, the worm spat that ball at the motionless knight .

The dark flaming ball flew at the nearby knight with lightning speed but it suddenly stopped a few inches away from it, as if it met a resistance .

The same second the ball was resisted, countless arm-thick black lightning flew from behind and smashed at that barrier causing cracks all over it . When the cracks started appearing, Arthur was able to see the shape of the barrier, it enveloped the knight and seemed to be quite strong as it didn't shatter even after his bombardment .

'Quite protective, are we?'

Black lightning even thicker than before flew from the worm and heavily struck the cracking barrier and in just half a minute, the cracks met each other and like shattering glass, the barrier was destroyed .

The dark flaming ball previously conjured, which was frozen mid-air after it met the barrier, seemed to have come back to life as it smashed at the abdomen of the knight, where the Heavenly Arrow struck .

Arthur wasn't done yet, in fact, this was but the beginning . He wasn't stupid and knew that destroying that barrier meant that the gargoyles will take notice and come at any second, so he sprang into actions .

The worm abruptly teleported in front of the knight when an explosion occurred at the other side of the hall . With an angry yet worried expression, Tarathiel appeared accompanied by Ehrendil . Their pupils were glued to the knight, which was shaking intensely due to the mysterious dark flaming ball stuck in its abdomen .

Their senses quickly caught sight of the invisible worm, which seemed to strangely float near the knight without doing a thing .

Obviously, the two Gods didn't just sit there and watch, they both flew towards the knight with their God Spirits appearing and intending to get rid of the worm, however, things didn't go as expected .

Before they could get close, their vision turned dark due to the appearance of an extremely large dark cube . It covered the whole hall, imprisoning the worm and the knight . Furthermore, it blocked their senses from entering and blocked their view, which made their faces turn ugly, especially for Tarathiel, who didn't the situation to suddenly turn to worse .

The formation he set around the knight should have resisted for a long time, even a first grade God can't shatter it that fast! This made him think of the mysterious white-clothed young man, but that thought was soon abandoned as he thought of the twins . When he interrogated them a few days ago, they clearly admitted that they knew the young man but upon further investigation, they had come to a conclusion that it wasn't their comrade as he wasn't as strong as being able to fight against Gods . From their information, their comrade was at the Divine Realm, and to make things more complicated, the mysterious person who wrecked havoc in their base was also at the Divine Realm so the clan master didn't know which truth to believe which led him to stop thinking about for the time being and deal with Ti Eru, who seemed to have gone crazy .

.....

The long body of the worm wrapped around the waist of the sitting knight, its large mouth bit on its back whilst spitting very small purple mouths, which relentlessly ate the body of the Earth Spirit, not letting go anything, even if it was mere stone .

Arthur didn't hold back as he used all his Nether Energy to activate Void skills and weaken the knight . His goal this time wasn't to possess it but to 'take' it with him, with enough time, he can possess it so first, he had to get out of here with the knight . The first step, which was the most difficult was surprisingly easily achieved and with the protection of the dark cube, there's no way they would be able to catch him anytime soon . The worm silently laid around the knight as it devoured its body and spat Green Lightning and purple void mouths .

Meanwhile, inside a Spatial Passage, a strange sight was happening . A dark ball as big as half of the dark cube was slowly contracting, each time it became smaller, the pressure it emanated multiplied until it started reaching a terrifying degree that even made the passage vibrate slowly as if it couldn't hold on .

With everything going smoothly and exactly as planned, albeit a bit easier, Arthur didn't dare to act cocky or overconfident, he just laid that and patiently wait for the things to end .

'It's all about time . Whether you can make it in time or not depends on breaking my sweet box, have fun, dear Gods . '

Chapter 186

Loud and thundering booms were echoing inside the big hall, the two gods joined hands and went all out to demolish the strange black box . It had to be said that it was astonishingly resistant to the point that it made Tarathiel and his brother wide eyes and awed .

No matter how many times their God Spirits banged on the black box, it didn't crack even a bit .

This black box, which was a unique skill Arthur obtained thanks to the Zodiac's powers is a very strong defensive skill meant only to protect what's inside of it, it can also be used to capture targets but in that area, it wasn't that efficient .

It cost a permanent loss of Mental Power to use it but for Arthur, who could replenish the lost Mental Power in a few days, it wasn't worth worrying about it . In fact, if he successfully absorbs the earth knight then his gains would far outweigh his small losses .

The absorbing process went quite smoothly as even after ten minutes, the black box only had small cracks in the side where the Gods attacked . At this rate, it would take them hours to fully open a way in and Arthur had already gulped the whole knight, which surprisingly showed no signs of fighting back or resisting him .

Although it went a bit different to his expectations, he still had to restrain this mysterious knight inside his consciousness . Actually, what he had done just now was a full use of his Mental Power and a characteristic of his Race . Ever since he heard his lame copy inside the ARK talk about the various powerful uses of his Race, he thought about it and managed to come up with a clever yet risky trick . It consisted of using Mental Power to lock forces inside his consciousness . Of course, he couldn't lock down anything but he bet on the chance of being able to lock down the knight and the first part did successfully work .

In the second part, he had to restrain the knight and stop it from damaging his consciousness, especially when his soul laid there .

Without minding the never-ending shaking of the black box, Arthur left the worm's body which disappeared in his storage ring and sat cross-legged inside the black box . He closed his eyes and immediately entered his consciousness .

.

The place was vast and was like a starry sky, cold and lonely, there was only one extremely bright light which was Arthur's soul . Thick chains with small purple and blue lines enveloped the big blob of light, and above this light rotated two objects, one was a metallic cube with strange runes and symbols and the second was an orb .

Arthur paid no heed to those and focused on the Earth Knight, which floated silently in his consciousness, from time to time spatial fluctuations occurred, which caused immense pain to Arthur . Even activating the pain Immunity won't help him as injuries to the soul or consciousness were not the same as physical damage .

What was fatal to all beings was an injury to their soul, which is why soul cultivators and soul attacks are feared by many and very few treasures or techniques were capable of defending against them, which made them even more dangerous and fearful .

Fully focused on the earth knight, Arthur's hand started forming various seals around the earth knight . Circular black symbols which emitted a faint gray light started appearing around knight, in the span of a few seconds, hundreds of these small symbols enveloped the knight to the point where you couldn't see its body . You could only see countless black symbols blanketing a large object .

[Death Seal] was a simple technique he obtained from the Book of the Damned, its offensive or defensive power was almost nonexistent, in terms of combat utility, it was neither efficient nor powerful . As the name suggests, it is a seal meant to constrain entities, mainly living beings . In some particular cases, it can serve as a catalyst too .

Arthur's main purpose in using this skill was to stop the knight from attacking him, he wasn't too acknowledgeable about this knight but knew that it should be dormant on injured . If he could fully stop it from fighting back until he figures out how to possess it then it's for the best, if not, then he'll destroy it immediately . With countless seals surrounding it, it should at least be able to weaken it .

Looking at the mass of seals, Arthur felt satisfied, he took one final look at the knight before leaving his consciousness .

Just as he opened his eyes, he saw a crack the size of a person's arm appear on the black box . Although it's a long way before they fully can enter, Arthur's wasn't going to wait for them, neither was he foolish enough to fight them for no reason .

He dived into the ground and used his maximum speed to head towards Rose, who was still dumbly standing there . She had a worried look and a look of struggle appeared on her beautiful face, she didn't know if she should go or not . At last, her fear won against her resolve, she couldn't muster the courage to provoke the gray-haired man, just his presence made her hair stand so she couldn't imagine how he would react when he sees she disobeyed .

Yes, she was a strong and loyal general, yes, she fought countless battles and shouldn't fear death, but once this death arrived at her house's death, she couldn't help but panic and fear for her life .

.....

Because they were focused on destroying the black box, the two Gods didn't notice the faint, almost unnoticeable presence that dived at extreme speed into the ground . In just a few seconds, Arthur found himself facing Rose, who didn't react in time before he entered her body and lowered his presence to the maximum .

Only when a few seconds passed did Arthur feel safe, he muttered to Rose to go back to her room and ignored her questioning . Annoyed, Rose could only return to her room with a helpless expression . She felt the strong tremors and knew that something major had happened but she didn't dare go there .

When she returned to her room, a loud and angry roar rang in her ears, without needing to check, she knew it was the Tarathiel's . A look of disbelief flashed in her eyes .

'What could make the usually calm clan leader shout like that?'

She didn't know what Arthur had done, but to anger Tarathiel to such a degree, it couldn't be something simple!

..

Inside the large hall, Tarathiel breathed heavily, he looked disheveled with a messy hair, red eyes, and an extremely ugly expression . Even Ehrendil's face was green with anger, he looked at the empty throne with disbelief and rage .

To this point, they had no clue how the invader took the Earth Spirit, which was supposed to be very strong . Moreover, they could do nothing but waste their time and effort shattering an empty black box!

"I want all the holes closed, no one gets out and no one gets in! Whoever dared to steal the Earth Spirit must still be lurking in here!"

Ehrendil didn't dare talk with an angry Tarathiel, he heavily nodded his head and left the hall, leaving an angry gargoyle .

After a short a while passed, a cold smile resurfaced on the young gargoyle's face, he stared at the empty throne then at the roof before muttering

"I see now, you never left our base since the beginning . But if it's not the from outside, then who exactly are you . . . I can't wait to find that out!"

...

"What did you do ?"

Rose couldn't hold back her curiosity after the strict order had descended from the higher-ups . Seeing the red-faced Ehrendil order the general and yells loudly, she knew that Arthur did really piss off the leaders .

"Hmmm, nothing major . . . I just borrowed something . It's nothing to fret about tsk tsk . . . I must say, you gargoyles are really stingy people . It's just a cheap thing! Hahahahah"

As he mocked the gargoyles, Arthur released a small laugh which made Rose's whole body uncontrollably shiver .

Chapter 187

Three days slowly passed after the incident of the Earth Spirit . The Desert Gargoyle clan was in turmoil, opposite to its usual silence . Rose was tense and couldn't calm down her mind, especially when she

thought back to Tarathiel's rage and the ruckus Arthur caused . Add to that the fact that the criminal is hiding inside of her, it made her feel even more depressed .

....

Arthur purposely laid down for a few days to check if the knight in his consciousness was going to resist . After all, it's better to be safe than sorry . When everything seemed in check, he started spreading his sense slowly and noticed that the gargoyles were dispatching big numbered groups outside of the headquarters .

knock *knock*

Rose's body trembled for a split second when she heard the knocking sound . Usually, someone of her status would never get disturbed unless there is an important matter .

After opening the door and listening to her pale-faced subordinate, she also became extremely angry when she heard the bad news .

Apparently, the Pigolo tribe really didn't care about the consequences and have become really daring . In just a short amount of time, they destroyed thirty-two outposts of the gargoyles and killed thirteen commanders . Although these cannot be considered major losses, it is still a loss, especially when you compare the numbers of the two enemies . Pigolos have a lot of numbers but few strong experts, as for the gargoyles, they were the total opposite .

Things were soon going to become rough with an all-out war between the two major factions of this wasteland and Arthur certainly didn't want to be part of it . He can't recklessly charge out of here but that doesn't mean he can't use Rose .

Fortunately, her superiors ordered her to fight at the front as to minimize the losses and stop the charges of the Pigolo . Gods like Ti Eru and the rest do not take part in the battles of their soldiers but would interfere if a strong figure arises .

A sly old monster like Ti Eru would sneak around and demolish precious mines that belong to the gargoyles, although it's not what a God should do, Ti Eru didn't seem to care at all as his rage exploded and he couldn't swallow the big loss he suffered at their hands .

....

Since she had everything she needs in her storage ring, Rose only picked her sword and departed immediately . However, she encountered some special visitors on the way . From their appearance, it is certain they were humans, moreover, they are from outside the wall, which made her wonder why they came but she didn't pay too much attention to their arrival, unlike Arthur .

Silently hiding inside her body, Arthur used Rose's vision to observe the visitors . There were two youths and an elder .

Just one look at them and he was able to deduce their origins, from their haughty and arrogant expression to the disdain and contempt in their eyes . Although they were facing higher-ups of the clan, they didn't seem to treat them kindly .

Only the elder was calm, his eyes were closed and he wore a grey robe . With hands behind his back and an arched back, he slowly followed the two youths .

"Ah! Why did we get picked out to come to this place! I can't even cultivate due to the lack of Nether Energy!"

One of the two youth annoyingly flung his hand, he ignored the servant which came to guide him and continued complaining .

The other youth was much calmer, he didn't express his opinion but from the frown on his face, you could guess he was not pleased by coming .

Surprisingly, Rose didn't seem angry by their attitude, so Arthur couldn't help but ask

"Do you get visitors like them often?"

The general was initially startled as she was preoccupied with the thoughts regarding the clan but his voice brought her back to the cruel reality .

"Not very often, probably once or twice a year . "

Contrary to her usual stubbornness, she became much more docile . After learning the ruckus he created and seeing his power, she was certain that he was a powerful expert and any mistake she makes would result in her death . Rose had long since known those rogue experts which travel the world and they usually were extremely powerful and ruthless .

"Mmmm"

Arthur didn't say anything, he just made a noise close to a humming but Rose could imagine him showing a playful smile as he said that . She didn't add anything and flew towards the West .

"Why did they come right now?"

"I do not know, they usually come when a treasure or a high-valued thing is spotted . We usually do trades too . "

This time, Arthur didn't reply, he remained silent which stressed Rose for a few minutes but after still hearing nothing from him, her body relaxed . Her troops were already there so was traveling alone so it was a pretty good opportunity for Arthur to leave her body yet he didn't .

Arthur had other plans, simply going now won't do him any good . He doesn't have a clear destination and he needs to digest the knight and completely subdue him so he can possess him . His main goal right now is finding a spatial master, and that isn't doable in such a desolate land so he has to cross the wall of Yang Fire .

With his fire resistance and current power, it should be possible to cross it but he has to resolve a final matter first . The children of the deceased Human Emperor, they disappeared along with Sonia and the rest yet there is no sign of them here . They are not in the gargoyles land nor the pigolo territory, which only leaves the last faction, The Naga tribe .

In the past, the daughter of the Human Emperor did cause some trouble for him and Lucy and there was a grudge but it had long since been solved and he didn't take it too much into heart . He wasn't going to give up just yet . Although they may have died, however, there is also a possibility of them being kidnapped too .

And where were all the kidnapped girls sent to? Of course, it was to that mysterious force that Vyncent is coming from . The prince may not be with her but he should at least retrieve her .

Thanks to the information Vyncent gave him, he was supposed to meet up with the elders and the rest of the team in a specific location, the two brothers staying at the Gargoyles tribe will be there too along with the captured girls, so he decided to go take a look .

. . .

"It is finally time . "

When they were a good distance away from the HQ of the gargoyles, Arthur left Rose's body at last . With the book in his waist and Makaze sheathed, he was fully prepared .

The female gargoyle was stunned as she looked at the grey-haired man floating next to him with a peaceful look . She only managed to breathe again when his figure blurred and he disappeared from her view .

"Maybe next time we meet, we won't be enemies . "

Those were the last words she heard from him before he completely vanished . A few minutes later, AFTER she probed her body and made sure there was nothing lurking inside, she glanced at the direction he headed off to then continued flying West .

Chapter 188

The meetup location was a small land between at the far edges of the pigolo tribe's territory . It was quite close to the Wall of Yang Fire so it was suited for them .

It was a tall mountain with a volcano that looked like it would erupt at any second . Vyncent's faction was skilled in Earth techniques which gave them a bit of a resistance to fire, so hiding in such a mountain wouldn't be that dangerous if they took the appropriate measures .

Inside a decently large cave made inside the mountain, there were a couple of presences that could be felt inside . Most of them were very weak with only four distinguishable ones .

The strongest was an old man with a long white hair and a mustache . He was meditating in the corner without minding the ruckus happening not far away from him .

In fact, this was elder Tian who the white-clothed young man who was killed by Arthur talked about . He was the main force of this expedition to the wasteland and was responsible for getting the disciples in and out of the wall as they were unable to do so themselves .

Apart from that, he was ordered to stand down and not help the disciples in anyway as it was their mission and not his, and in a way, doing everything by themselves may be considered gaining valuable experience .

The three others were the two brothers which were residing in the gargoyles headquarters and a female in her twenties . They didn't emit a presence as strong as the old man but they were quite domineering and arrogant .

A bit far away was a small crowd of people, probably a dozen or so composed of mostly females and few feminine males . They were all shaking with fear and had strange red seals on their forehead .

The twins were lecherously staring at the beautiful females, however, they didn't dare act and merely let out their lustful gazes, as for the female, she was giving flirtatious gazes at the males whilst playfully smiling .

Their goal was not to torture or enslave these people which is exactly why they couldn't 'practice' whatever their weird hobbies are on them .

There was a male showing an arrogant attitude, he wore expensive clothes, his eyes showed disdain . He didn't have a group like them but he was forced to come too, which annoyed him .

Whilst releasing a shy smile and looking at the crowd of females, the female's eyes flashed with a cold light for a split second whilst saying with a joking tone

"I think we brought too many, and that is not counting what the remaining two will bring . Why don't you let me take care of a few of them, mine are not that numerous, after all . "

She winked at the terrified feminine males then glanced at the brothers only to see the ugly expression on their faces .

"Don't try to eat more than you can chew, you've spent your time here playing around while others didn't . "

The younger brother nodded and added

"Yeah . . . what he said . . . "

The situation became tense in a matter of seconds just after a few words were spoken, which fully proves that although they come from the same faction, they weren't that friendly towards each other .

"No fighting, no stealing from each other . No match which pavilion you are from, you will be harshly punished if you break those rules . "

The old man's voice was surprisingly soft but it carried a hint of authority . The three quickly calmed down and minded their own business .

Contrary to their expectations, the newly arisen silence didn't last long as the entrance to the cave shook and a haggard figure slipped in . It was actually Vyncent, who looked like a homeless with his torn clothes, dirty faces and dust enveloping him . If not for the way he popped out of the ground which his special technique, the rest would have attacked him . Vyncent was not that strongest amongst them but they all were greedy for his secret technique as it was really amazing, it was even praised by elder Tian .

The trio were dumbfounded for a few seconds before the female managed to react first, she burst out laughing as she looked at Vyncent's state . He usually looked handsome so seeing him look this pitiful is one in a lifetime chance .

"Hahahaha . . . it's a pity I didn't bring a recording talisman "

Only elder Tian remained calm, he merely glanced at Vyncent for a second before resuming his meditation . Whatever happened is their own business, he is only responsible for their safety .

The calmness of the old man soon vanished when he heard Vyncent's next words, which felt as if a bucket of cold water was poured on him .

"Senior Kleid died . "

The laughter halted and was replaced with deep shock and eyes full of disbelief . Vyncent wasn't the kind to crack jokes like that, and even if he were, it clearly was not the time for such terrible jokes .

Seeing the surprise in their expressions, Vyncent resumed talking

"I do not know who killed him, he was a mysterious grey-haired man . "

Elder Tian's expression turned serious, he stood and scanned the surroundings with his sense then said

"The situation hasn't been good the last few days . We'll wait half a day for Riku to come, if he isn't here by that time, we'll depart, it's too dangerous . "

He didn't even try to dig deep and find out about the killer of Kleid as there were many possibilities and he can't risk offending powerful experts because of a mere disciple .

A disciple dying was not within his expectations . It's true that this wasteland is dangerous, but the pigolo and the rest won't kill human cultivator as they knew that the humans capable of coming here have powerful backing .

The atmosphere soon regained its usual silence but there was a mix of tension, fear, and uneasiness, especially for Vyncent, who couldn't help but remember Arthur and the red-headed youth, who slaughtered so many gargoyles in a few seconds .

Furthermore, there was that weird flame thing that entered his body, no matter how much he probed and tried, he couldn't figure out how to remove it, this had alarmed him and made him anger Arthur, which is why he didn't spit out everything he knew to the elder .

Actually, Vyncent knew that with the faction behind him, he shouldn't fear Arthur as any official elder can deal with him, however, he wasn't arrogant enough to act high and mighty in such a faraway land . He would be killed without anyone knowing it and Arthur would be able to escape . If he were in his sect then he wouldn't fear Arthur but the situation is different and it had become extremely dire the last few days with the on-going war of pigolos and gargoyles .

. . . .

Elder Tian didn't resume his meditation, he left the cave and started checking around the volcanic mountain . Although it's a remote area, it didn't stop the fact that it still belonged to the pigolos and he can't deal with Ti Eru alone, add to that his brothers, it would be akin to suicide if he were to meet them

.

After doing a few rounds and carefully checking a few kilometers around the mountain, Tian was about to enter the cave again when the formation he put around the mountain shook for a split second before it shattered . This shocked him greatly but before he managed to react, a white blur flashed in front of him and a terrifying sense of doom befell on him .

Without hesitation, he activated he pressed his hands to his chest which emitted a bright yellow light and the incoming doom violently hit his newly formed yellow heavy armor . From head to toe, he was armed in a gold like armor, it was very catchy and thick .

Although his reactions were fast, he was still pushed back a few steps before he managed to stabilize himself . Holding a silver broadsword in a hand and an arm-thick wooden shield in the other, Tian glared angrily at the figure floating a bit far from him .

It was a grey-haired man, wearing a remarkably beautiful white taoist robe with long sleeves . He seemed like the kind neighbor next door with his friendly smile and the peaceful aura around him .

'Life cultivator!'

This was the first thing Tian thought about when he sensed that unusual aura! His senses strengthened and he didn't dare underestimate whoever this man was .

Chapter 189

Life cultivators were one of the few rare types of cultivators . For example, those who use the energy of death, who wield death energy are known as death cultivators, there are also Sword cultivators and so on .

Life cultivators are extremely rare and hard to deal with, one because they have extremely strong healing abilities and unparalleled recovering and two was their weird techniques .

Arthur has been mistaken for one due to his ethereal aura but this only added to old man Tian's caution and made him wonder why is a Life cultivator here and why is he attacking him .

Although he already took out his treasures, he didn't immediately attack . Seeing the other party remaining silent, he couldn't help but ask

"Friend, the land is vast and there is room for everyone, why bother to fight amongst ourselves in such a foreign place . "

What was also known about Life cultivators is that they disliked fighting . They were known as peaceful individuals and would only fight in very few extreme cases which confused Tian even more, however, what was a fact was that this grey-haired man was indeed a Life cultivator as that aura could never be faked .

Actually, Tian had once seen a Life cultivator from a distance and that person's power was beyond one's imagination, it made gods afraid and devils shiver, it was merely a small glance but it made Tian remember it throughout his life .

A few seconds passed but he heard no response which stressed old Tian but he still remained his defensive posture . From that previous exchange, he knew that this man was no weakling and a fight

between them is not advantageous to him especially when he was no confidence in getting out unscathed without using some of his life-saving treasures .

Finally, the cold silence was broken when Arthur bashfully smiled and said with an emotional tone

"I had long yearned to fight a God head-on, I wish that elder can fulfill this mortal's request!"

As his words were finished, he disappeared from his spot and attacked old Tian . He was confident in even defeating Delia, so fighting this old man is not impossible . However, defeating and killing are no similar things, he never killed a God . Meyzu, one of the leaders of the Underworld was severely injured but not killed, he only died at last because he used his life essence to stab him in the back, inflicting a fatal blow .

Fortunately for the old man, he was fully prepared, he raised his big shield meeting Arthur's violent kick . Just as the impact was going to occur, Arthur's figure vanished from Tian's sight and by the next split second, he felt an unprecedented coldness coming from his back . Before he could react, a punch landed on his back, the fist had a hint of green light, almost unnoticeable .

It was but a single fist but that was more than enough to create a very loud explosion, shaking mountains and shattering the earth itself . The old man, who was emitting a strong golden light was sent flying fifty meters away from Arthur before he managed to stabilize his body .

His Golden Drop Metal Armor showed signs of shattering as cracks appeared on his back . He was shocked to see a treasure of this grade being almost destroyed from a single dread and this only added to the dread Tian felt .

'Such monstrous physique!'

Cold sweat dripped down his spines as he looked at the smiling man, feeling even more threatened . Not even ten seconds passed before the same feeling of danger enveloped Tian, without hesitation, he roared and raised his shield to meet what was coming at him .

Hundreds, if not thousands of long dark spears smashed at the shield creating golden sparks and pushing the old man inch by inch, it was like being bombarded by thick needles . Old Tian could feel the ominousness and chilliness of this dark energy, his thoughts became erratic and confused as Life Cultivators should not be this absurd, even if they get angry, they re not this crazy .

'This crazy is a maniac'

Seeing Arthur's shadow arrive next to him, Old Tian finally moved his right leg to the front and loudly roared, bashing his shield to the sky and stabbing his sword into the earth .

A golden triangle was formed as he activated the special formation of his battle armor . A blinding golden light was emitted from the triangle and when Arthur appeared next to him, Tian pressed his hands on the triangle and shouted

"Form, expand, blast! 'Golden Ox Blast!' "

The golden triangle which was as big as Tian's body suddenly rotated and faced its peak to the ground and shot a yellow beam the thickness of a man's abdomen right at Arthur, who just appeared in front of the triangle .

unaffected by the beam, Arthur murmured something and used his fingers to right seals with an extremely fast speed to the point that you could only see white blurs . When the yellow beam was just about to hit him, a palm-sized bronze platform had appeared on his hand .

Holding this platform, Arthur raised his hand and smashed this platform on the beam . What was even more surprising is that the platform suddenly expanded in size and was as big as a tennis field, coupled with Arthur's high Strength and a smooth, almost flawless control of Nether Energy, the technique '[Raging Bronze Platform]' showed unbeatable mightiness and heaven-shattering destructive power .

The yellow beam was turned into flying white sparks in just one swing of Arthur, however, to Old Tian's demise, this was but the beginning .

Next, Arthur proceeded to violently smash this huge bronze platform on the old man without showing any mercy or restraint . The poor old God could only grit his teeth and use his shield trying to block this bronze platform, moreover, he was finally forced to show his God Spirit, which had the shape of an ox .

The Ox was like a small mountain, emitting a light as bright as the sun and having a pressure that could render anyone below the God Realm frozen from its power, it was too suffocating .

God Spirits represented the Gods, Tian practiced the Golden Ox cultivation technique since he started the road of immortality, so naturally, it would take this shape . The God Spirits are also affected by the experiences and personality of the person, so no God Spirits can be similar .

However, Arthur was completely unaffected by this, he held the bronze platform and said

"An ox, even with godly powers, still have to submit to a tiger!"

He heavily smashed the platform on the big golden ox, which didn't stay still and used its enormous body to stomp on Arthur and the bronze platform on top of him .

As to be expected from a clash between two Gods, the nearby mountain started shattering and peaks fell, the sky turned dark and the winds whistled loudly, even the nearby Vyncent's group were alarmed and came to see what's happening only to see the Tian fighting with an unknown man .

They stared with awe at the battle of Gods, it isn't common to witness such a thing so they might have an epiphany or a enlightenment . Only Vyncent was struck with endless fear, he wasn't so casual and merely took a second before he turned around and disappeared from this area . He used his secret technique to its maximum potential, trying to get away from this area . He already knew what was to become of his fellow disciples and he didn't care, life was precious and camaraderie comes next, but what camaraderie are we talking about? Such things don't exist between them, they only share a common mission and just so happened to be assigned together, and it just so happened that danger came so he had no choice but to change his plans and escape . At least facing some pigolo patroles and hiding for a while is better than facing Arthur, who was like a nightmare to Vyncent, who witnessed what that man was capable of .

Maybe Elder Tian would be able to defeat Arthur, that was what any arrogant person would think, but Vyncent had been cautious ever since he was young, a mistake can be done once, twice at most, but if it happened a third time, then one can only blame his rashness and idiocy .

.....

Such a vicious battle cannot pass unnoticeable from the pigolo, they soon got ahold of what is happening and a battalion was already watching from afar . Although this area was far away from the main headquarters, there is still a battalion that was stationed to guard this place .

Commander Fierce Tiger was in charge of this battalion and right now, he was staring at the howling winds and the raging sky whilst two figures, one was a golden ox as big as a mountain and the other was a man holding a bronze platform and smashing it on the ox . The scene was a bit strange and comedic, but none dared to laugh, heck! None dared to even breathe in the face of two facing gods . Even with a battalion under his command, Fierce Tiger was not brave enough to meddle, he was just here to watch, nothing more .

..

As the battle reached its apex, Tian controlled his ox and charged along with it, trying to deal a fatal blow to Arthur but it was to no avail . Even with his God Spirit, he was totally suppressed in every sense of the word . After merely twenty minutes passed, the bronze platform was unscathed and emitting a majestic luster, as for the golden ox, it had countless places where there were cracks and gaping holes, it didn't take a genius to guess that it was about to be extinguished .

If a God Spirit is extinguished then the user would be heavily wounded but he wouldn't die from that . So every God who summoned his God Spirit have to be prepared or else if it was extinguished then not only would he also be wounded, he would not be able to use it until he recovers completely .

"T-this, this is impossible!"

Seeing his God Spirit fading from existence as Arthur struck with his bronze platform again, Tian was rendered speechless, he coughed a large mouthful of blood and retreated a few steps . His face was deathly pale and his hands were shivering, one look and it was enough to know he was wounded and on the verge of collapse . To use one's God Spirit required large amounts of Nether Energy and precise control, once the connection is broken, meridians will be damaged and the Dantian will close itself to self-protect the life of the user .

"In front of absolute power, everything else is useless . Gods or Devils, those are titles but when someone is strong enough, even a Mortal could claim the spot of the strongest existence! It is time for this to finish . "

With a calm tone and a hanging peaceful smile on his face, Arthur lifted the bronze palm and used his other hand to also lift the platform then he rushed at Tian and used his maximum strength to crush the raging platform on the old man, not leaving a way to leave .

Facing the imminent danger and being in a desperate situation, Old Tian was still unwilling to face his death, he madly shouted and took out an old tattered paper, it looked like a normal paper but once he injected he Nether Energy, an ancient aura which could suppress the heavenly laws was summoned . The Incoming platform was met with a strong resistance and bounced off before it turned into countless sparks which dispersed and vanished in the air in a matter of seconds .

As he took out his life-saving treasure, Old Tian glared angrily and madly at Arthur and sinisterly said

"To force me to take this! You truly are strong but like you said, in front of absolute power, no one can resist! Now die!"

Chapter 190

Holding the old tattered paper, a tower pressure washed over Arthur and sent him flying back for a few hundred meters before he crushed down creating dust and a large crater . It felt suffocating as a force kept pressing on his body, he was barely able to stand up when the pressure multiplied and an even greater force struck him again, however, he was prepared for this blow and knew that teleporting away isn't enough to dodge the force of this mysterious paper that old Tian had just taken out .

Arthur didn't hesitate as he summoned his book of the damned to block the incoming blow . It wasn't accurate to describe it as a blow, it was just pure pressure containing an ancient aura capable of invoking heaven's jealousy .

The book opened instantly and a rotten hand came out of it, the rotten hand was clenched into a fist and small dark threads made out of condensed death energy twirled around the rotten fist and met the pressure .

The pressure which rendered Arthur incapable of moving properly lessened by a huge margin, he used the long chains restraining him to tie the book on his chest then he looked up, coldly staring at the laughing old man .

His figure now looked pretty creepy with a rotten hand erected from his chest, or so it seemed . With the pressure lessening, Arthur was able to breathe a bit .

'As expected, to kill a God is not as simple as I thought . '

Although he suffered a blow, it was not serious and with his insane recovery, the superficial bruises were already healed .

"It is useless to resist . This is a precious a very ancient 3rd Grade Heavenly ranked treasure, it's not something that can be easily stopped . "

A cold light flashed through Tian's crazed eyes, he spread his hands and pressed two of his finger on the old tattered paper whilst coughing a golden drop of blood .

The spectators were flabbergasted, especially the disciples of old Tian's sect . Seeing their elder sacrifice a drop of his blood essence made them realize how terrifying the gray-haired man actually was . This only increased the dread and fascination they felt .

"For Elder Tian to use his Blood Essence! The outcome is already decided . "

The female seriously spoke as her eyes were glued to the tattered paper . For juniors like them, to be bestowed such a powerful treasure is merely a dream unless they were peerless geniuses or prodigies .

The twins and the remaining disciple stared with awe at this grand spectacle . A battle between two powerful gods is not something that can be witnessed every day, at least not in this world .

Blood Essence, to anyone above the God Realm, is as precious as their cultivation, Dantian or even their life! Unlike injured meridians which can be healed, Blood Essence can never be recovered and once used

then the user will suffer heavy damage . Not only that, it will greatly hinder their progress in cultivation in the future and limit their achievements which is why young geniuses rarely use their Blood Essence, if never . To push old Tian to such a state, the enemy cannot be a simple character, or so thought these juniors .

As the golden drop merged with the tattered paper, the ancient presence multiplied and a rune came down from the heavens below, covering the entire sky and encompassing the whole area and sucking all the Nether Energy .

Even the calm Arthur felt alarmed and his expression sank, he didn't just watch as the heavenly rune descended and was ready to strike him, without the slightest bit of hesitation, he channelled his Nether Energy and used his Mental Power to further strengthen his skills then he made a weird gesture with one hand and another weirder one with his remaining hand .

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In fact, no being in this world could do execute two things at the same time, even Gods cannot do that . They can control their God Spirit and attack but that akin to a dog wagging his tail whilst moving, it is a part of the animal, just like the God Spirit is a part of the God .

But the concept of executing two techniques is illogical, even Arthur was not able to do that, the rule applied to him just like everyone else . Unless he has another consciousness or a treasure with a consciousness then launching two attacks at the same time . He could time the attacks so it seems like he is executing them at the same time but to do the real thing is not a possible thing .

With an enormous amount of powerful skills, ranging from Dark Magic to the ancient flames, the godly thunder and nature magic, his arsenal is immeasurable but to launch them at the same time cannot be done . One because his body is unable to control so many at the same time, second is because his brain will sustain irreparable damage and the pressure alone is enough to destroy his consciousness so no cultivator dares to be this reckless .

Currently, Arthur was attempting something close to it . It was definitely not simultaneously executing two skills but it was a bit similar and obviously, its might will not something to be underestimated, however, it is also a dangerous move and cannot be taken lightly as a slight mistake might cause a severe backlash .

Very soon, Arthur's left hand turned crimson red with dark red lines and his right palm had a violet whirlpool, those two powers were in sync and drew each other, multiplying their pressure .

Just as this second, old Tian finally unleashed his finely prepared attack

"It's time for you to die!"

The tattered paper shook and the heavenly rune which became the size of an elephant descended at Arthur with unstoppable momentum . With a pressure capable of sealing heavens and shattering mountains, Arthur was extremely calm and unperturbed, as if the incoming calamity had nothing to do with him .

Slowly but surely, his two hands closed on each other until they met each other . Arthur's hand resembled a praying monk and a ghastly gray fog formed inside them .

'Heavens above and Hell below, there is nothing I can't destroy!'

The careful fusion of the two domineering powers was successful, Although it was not completely perfect and flawless, this formless gray energy inside his hands was the proof of its success . He unhesitantly released this small volume of gray fog and gently threw it at the incoming rune .

As for what happened next, it can only be called unbelievable to the eyes of the spectators .